Import of flour

†*344. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to import flour from America;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that custom duty for importing flour from America is being abolished totally;

(d) whether Government would ensure that there is no weeds or any type of adulteration in the imported flour; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government have not taken any such decision.

(d) Private companies/individuals can import flour at the prevailing rates of Customs duty after inspection and clearance by authorities empowered under Prevention of Food Adulteration Act.

(e) Does not arise.

New railway zone in the south

*345. PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala and the MPs from Kerala have proposed to set up a new railway zone in the South;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal has been received from Government of Kerala and Hon'ble Members of Parliament from Kerala for setting up a new railway zone in Kerala.

(c) New zones are set up keeping in factors like size, workload, accessibility, traffic pattern and other operating/administrative requirements etc. consistent with the needs of economy and efficiency without any regional considerations. The proposal for creation of new Zone, when examined in the light of these considerations, has not been found feasible.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.